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Vol., V. No. 11.

NEW YORK, Saturday, March 14, 1874.

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#### SPRING ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY for SATURDAY, March 21, in addition to the regular subscription, will have an extensive extra circulation, and will be daily distributed at the Trade Sale Rooms, during the coming Spring Sale, commencing March 24.

Lists of Announcements, and any special information on forthcoming books, to be mentioned in our regular report, should be received immediately.

Advertisements will be received until Wednesday morning, March 18.

#### NOTES IN SEASON.

THE Spring Trade Sale opens Tuesday, March 24th, continuing through Monday, March 30th, which will be Catholic day. The catalogue comprises 328 pages, and many leading publishers are represented, Osgood contributing one especially large invoice. The Appletons' invoice of books and blank work occupies most of the first day; Estes & Lauriat, Widdleton, Little, Brown & Co., Wood, Hinton, Lee & Shepard, Desilver, Mason, Baker & Pratt, Claxton, and Holman's Bibles, occupy Wednesday; imported invoices, Van Nostrand, Dodd & Mead, the Scribners, and Swayne, are the main features of Thursday; on Friday Osgood, Shepard, and Roberts occupy the day, and on Saturday come Leavitt & Allen, Fuller, Harding, Schaefer & Koradi, art publishers, etc.

PORTER & COATES have just ready a fine new edition of Mrs. Ellet's "Queens of American Society," on toned paper, and with 13 steel plates, making a handsome table book. with the new "Fireside Edition" of the Waverley Novels, will be issued by subscription.

THE two novels which the readers of Hearth & Home have been enjoying for some months past, will be issued very soon in book form by Orange Judd Company, publishers, 245 Broadway. These are "John Andross," by Mrs. Rebecca Harding Davis, which is talked of as her strongest novel, and John Esten Cooke's "Pretty Mrs. Gaston."

VINCENT'S work on "The Land of the White Elephant," the Siamese region, will be the next issue of the Harpers, in a handsome 8vo volume, with fine cuts. Though an American work, it has already been published in England, and has met with great success. "The Blue Ribbon," by the author of "Jeanie's Quiet Life," and "Colonel Dacre, by the author of "Caste," will shortly be added to the paper novel library. Victor Hugo's "Ninety-three" will be ready within a fortnight, and the Evangelical Alliance volume will be placed in the trade at \$6.

At the Appletons', Upton's Cavalry Tactics and Geikie's Science Primer on Geology are nearly ready. The next volume of the International Science Series will be Maudsley on Responsibility in Mental Disease. Mrs. Macquoid's novel, "My Story," will be published by this

Dr. Chas. Hodge's new volume, answering the question "What is Darwinism?" from the thoroughly orthodox point of view, the fourth volume of Curtius' great history of Greece, and the separate issue of that part of the Bible Com-mentary relating to the next series of Sundayschool lessons, will be the earliest publications at Scribner, Armstrong & Co.'s.

THE Scribners will shortly commence the issue of a cleverly planned new series, to be edited by R. H. Stoddard, the poet, and having for its motto Marlowe's words: "Infinite riches in a lit-tle room." The "Bric-a-brac Series" will be chiefly of "choice bits" of personal reminiscence; the first volume will be condensed from the biographies of late notables in musical and dramatic art, Chorley, Planché, and Young; and the second will deal with Latter Day Wits and Humorists. The books will be somewhat larger in size than the popular Bayard series, and in an attractive style, at \$1.50 each.

ROBERTS Bros. have ready the new edition of Margaret Fuller's life and works. Those wonderful memoirs by Emerson, Channing and Clarke, formerly issued by the Tribune Association, form the first two volumes; the others are the "Works," edited by her brother, Arthur B. Fuller, and comprising "Woman in the Nineteenth Century," "Art, Literature, and the Drama," "Life Without and Life Within," and "At Home and Abroad." Margaret Fuller was, perhaps, the most brilliant and remarkable of American women, and in these days of feminine pre-eminence her memory ought to be practically honored by a large sale of this set.

#### ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BOOKS JUST PUBLISHED.

The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported Books are marked with an asterisk; Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.

-The Vienna Exposition and the Philadelphia Centennial Report of Charles Francis Adams, Jr., Com-missioner of the State of Mass. to the Universal Exposition of Vienna. 8°, pp. 53. Pap................ Estes & L.

Antoine, the Italian Boy. By an ex-Consul. 16°, pp. 316.

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Gray .- The Biblical Museum: a Collection of Notes, Ex-Pray.—The Biblical Museum: a Collection of Notes, Explanatory, Homiletic, and Illustrative, on the Holy Scriptures, especially designed for the Use of Ministers, Bible Students, and Sunday-School Teachers. By James Comper Gray. Vol. 3, containing the Acts of the Apostles and Romans; vol. 4, containing the Epistles I. Corinthians to Philemon. Ea. 12°, pp. 384. Per v. \$1.50...Randolph.

Hamilton .--Present Status of Social Science. A Review. historical and critical, of the Progress of Thought in Social historical and critical, or the Flogress ... 12°, pp. 340. \$2. Philosophy. By Robert S. Hamilton. 12°, pp. 340. \$2. Hinton.

Hessey.—Moral Difficulties connected with the Bible. Third Series, including Prayer and Recent Difficulties about it, etc. Being the Boyle Lectures for 1873, preached

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Keble.—The Christian Year: Thoughts in Verse for the Sundays and Holydays throughout the Year. New ed. 16°. \$1.50.... .....Porter & C.

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\*Jackson .- Stories about Animals. By the Rev. Thomas Jackson, M.A. 4°, pp. 253. \$2.50.... Cassell, P. & G.

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\*Plumptre.—The Bible Educator. Vol. 1. Edited by Rev. E. H. Plumptre, of King's Coll., London. Illustr. with 120 engr. and maps. Imp. 8°, pp. 384. \$3.. Cassell.

Plunkett, Oliver. See Moran.

Presbyterian Cook Book, compiled by the Ladies of the First Presbyterian Church, Dayton, Ohio. Enl. and rev. ed. 12°, pp. 183. \$1; interleaved, \$1.50..... Thomas.

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#### A Suicidal Policy.

THE Ohio Legislature has adopted a hint from the late Mr. Tweed, of New York, who has recently crossed the Styx to Blackwell's Island, and now purposes, after the fashion of that scholarly and erudite worthy, to write its own school-books. A bill now before it, and which it is said has some chance of adoption, provides for the appointment of "three commissioners or authors," who shall compile or prepare for publication a full set of school-books, whose use shall be compulsory in all the schools of the State for ten years. The MSS. when prepared shall be held by the State, but any one who may wish to publish the same may have them copied free of charge. The "commissioners or authors" are to receive \$2,000 each for their labors, and \$2,000 more is appropriated out of which to pay authors who may be "compiled " from.

The bill in question not only outrages every principle of free government and general trade, but stands upon no ground which can be reasonably defended. In the first place, it would throw over about a million dollars' worth of books now used in that State. In the second place, provided these "commissioners or authors" were the best appointments that could be made, the "Ohio series" would undoubtedly result in being the poorest in the market. We doubt if any three men are capable of that wide mastery of knowledge which should suffice to produce text-books on all the subjects of our common schools; but if they could, these books, at the present rate of educational advancement, would be in ten years so far behind the age that Ohio's school system would become famous as the poorest in the Union. The recompense stated is utterly inadequate for the production of some score of even the most careless and slip-shod books, but it is probable that a "job" lies hidden here, and any amount of

money could be procured by amendment. But really capable authors could scarcely be got at any price for such a purpose. Moreover, a bill of this sort would be but a broken reed to any publisher who should trust to it; the Legislature of five years later would probably repeal it out of sight-obliged to by its miserable results-and we doubt if any contract of this sort for that length of time could be upheld in the courts. In short, if the State of Ohio wants to ruin its school system and the unwary publishers whom it may entrap, it has hit upon a capital plan.

Mr. D. F. De Wolf, Superintendent of the Toledo schools, and President of the State Teachers' Association, has issued an effective remonstrance against the bill, bringing out most of the above points. He is quite mistaken, however, in one assumption that he makes, which is well answered in a reply to this point of his letter to the Toledo Commercial by a leading educational house of this city, which we have asked permission to reprint in our correspondence columns. Publishers' Board of Trade is in no sense a union to keep up prices against the public. In fact, it serves the public interest most thoroughly, for it has already reformed abuses which had the worst influence upon our schools. This whole question was argued out at its early meetings, and it was then wisely settled, once for all, that prices were entirely beyond its jurisdiction. It deals only with discounts, and its influence in this way is and has been thoroughly wholesome.

SIR ARTHUR HELPS' new novel, "Ivan de Biron; or, The Russian Court in the Middle of the last Century," is just ready at Roberts Bros. It is said to be more of a story than most of his books, while abounding in the aphoristic wisdom for which he is so distinguished, and is very interesting as well as exceedingly valuable as a study of Russian life.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The interests of the trade cannot be better served than by a full discussion by its members of all questions which affect it. Our columns are always open to communications on any such subject, provided they be brief and suggestive, and we cordially invite the trade to express any suggestions or opinions of interest or value in " Letters to the Editor."

#### The Board of Trade and the Question of Prices.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly.

DEAR SIR: It may not be known to your readers that several of the Western Legislatures are seriously agitating the question of having their States supply their public schools with text-books, under some plan which they think will prevent what they call the extortion of the school book publishers. In the course of the debate on the subject, the most extreme statements have been made as to the profits which school book publishers are making; it has also been generally understood that the Board of Trade controls prices, and that a single publisher cannot reduce his prices if he would. In both the Minnesota and Ohio Legislature bills are now pending. In Ohio the bill is likely to pass, it is said. This bill simply provides that the State shall at its own expense have prepared a complete series of text books in manuscript form, and from said manuscripts any publisher can make copies and print and publish the books free of copyright. The State of Ohio, on her part, agrees to use these books to the exclusion of all others for ten (10) years. This plan, it is thought, will promote competition, and break down the "huge monopoly." Mr. D. F. De Wolf, Supt. of Schools, Toledo, O., has prepared and printed in the Commercial a very able article, showing the absurdity of this bill; but while he displays a clear comprehension of the subject, and is using his best efforts to prevent his State from making so silly an experiment, we were not a little surprised to see that he has fallen into the error of supposing that the Board of Trade controls prices. On this point Mr. De Wolf says that as there are several quite large publishers outside the Board of Trade it cannot be an absolute monopoly. So serious an error as this we thought ought not to be allowed to pass, and therefore addressed to Mr. De Wolf the enclosed letter, which you were kind enough to suggest you would like to publish.
Yours truly,

SHELDON & Co.

D. F. De Wolf, Esq.

We have received a copy of your favor addressed to the editor of the Commercial. We would like to call your attention to a single point, which seems to be entirely misunderstood. It seems to be thought that the Publishers' Board of Trade controls the prices of books, and thus prevents their being cheapened by means of competition. The whole point of the "Ohio bill" is to allow any one who wishes to publish and print the Ohio series, on the supposition that competition will keep the prices at a reasonable rate. Now the Board of Trade does not in any way prevent the publication of books at just as low a price as any of its members desire to publish them. There is not one word in the laws which would prevent a

member of the Board of Trade publishing a book at (1) one cent which cost him one (\$1) dollar to make. Nor is there any understanding among the members as to prices, nor would such an extreme case even as we have mentioned be the subject of complaint. It has been fully decided that the Board of Trade had no control over prices. That question must be left to the sole determination of each member. Thus we have the freest competition that it is ever possible to obtain. the influence of the Board favors low prices. First. it controls the agency system, thereby making the expenses of conducting the publishing business less, and thereby enabling publishers to reduce prices, as the profits are not, as they used to be, largely used up in agency work. Second, it says that each member must issue a list of prices and send it out (he can revise and change his prices as often as he desires), but in selling to the trade 40 per cent. discount shall be the maximum to large buyers, who are expected to sell again to the re-tailer at 33 1-3 per cent. off, and the retailers sell to the consumer at the published prices. This simply prevents the old extreme discounts, and gives the jobbers and retailers as much profit as they ought to make out of the public. Now is it not clear that if custom obliges the publisher to sell 50 or 60 per cent. discount he is obliged to fix his prices just so much higher to the public, and the middlemen get an undue profit? It seems to us proper that your Legislature should know these facts. They have now got all that competition can give them, and competition in publishing is very severe. It perhaps pays as little profit, in proportion to the capital and brains used, as any business in the country. If profit in publishing is only secured by doing a very large business, a small or medium-sized publishing business cannot be made to pay. The firms who, by brains and capital and a close application, succeed in building up a large trade, are apt to make money, even in dry goods, and publishing is no exception to the general rule.
Yours very truly,
SHELDON & Co.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

LAOCOON, by Gotthold Ephraim Lessing. Translated by Ellen Frothingham. (Roberts Bros.) After the lapse of a century this essay retains its place as a masterpiece among art criticisms. It is probably one of the most remarkable productions of Lessing, and is certainly one of his most characteristic. Taking the celeone of his most characteristic. brated group of the Laocoon as his text, he goes over the whole field of painting and poetry, strongly defining the nature and limits of each The work is brought out in elegant style, being very handsomely printed, and tastefully bound. 16mo, cloth, \$1.50.

PHINEAS REDUX, a novel, by Anthony Trollope. (Harper & Bros.) The further adventures of "Phineas Finn" are traced out in this volume, in which many old friends appear, whom we think it is most time for Mr. Trollope to consign to that "country from whose bourn no traveller returns." Let it not be thought, however, that we would disparage this favorite author, as all his many merits as a novelist are exhibited in this his last work. 8vo, cloth, \$1.75.

OF "Putnam's Elementary Science Series" we have received "Building Construction—Brick," by R. Scott Burn, and "Building Construction—Timber," by the same author. Each of these

works is in two volumes; one volume contains only the text and the other, plates illustrative of the subject. In preparing the above works, the author has been mainly desirous to place before the student a statement of the leading points connected with the employment of brick and timber in the construction of buildings. Also "Elements of Zoology," by Mr. Harbison, and "Inorganic Chemistry," by Dr. W. B. Kemshead, belonging to the same series. These are all 16mo, cloth, 75 cents each.

A TOUR THROUGH THE PYRENEES, by Taine, translated by J. Safford Fiske. (Henry Holt & Co.) This is a beautiful library edition of Taine's work, published without the illustrations of Doré. 12mo, cloth, \$2.50.

THORPE REGIS. (Roberts Bros.) A novel, by the author of "The Rose Garden" and "Unawares." Specially noticeable for the beauty of its style, and its many rare bits of description of English rural scenery. A charming book to read, and one which contains nothing to offend the most fastidious. 12mo, cloth, \$2.

#### LITERARY AND TRADE NEWS.

MARY COWDEN CLARKE'S two love stories in "metred prose" are about ready at the Roberts in a neat volume. "The Trust and the Remittance" has the following quaint dedication: "To the Lover-Husband of Eighty-five, these Love Stories are Dedicated by the Lover-Wife of Sixty-three."

"THE Literary Remains of Emanuel Deutsch," of very great interest to all scholars, will probably be the next publication at Holt's. Auerbach's "Waldfried" is already partly stereotyped.

IT has before been noticed that Americans seem to have a special facility and felicity at translation, perhaps because so many languages are represented among us. It is at any rate curious to note that the English editions of the two most important French and German novels of the year, will be the work of Americans. Mr. Frank Lee Benedict, now in London, is translating Victor Hugo's "Ninety-three," which Harper & Bros. will shortly publish here, and Mr. Simon A. Stern's translation of Auerbach's "Waldfried" has been secured by the English publishers from Henry Holt & Co.

A VOLUME on "The Office and Duty of Christian Pastors," the fruit of the long service of the elder Dr. Tyng, is in press at the Harpers'.

MR. RUSKIN'S latest series of lectures, on wood and metal engraving, under the characteristically uncharacteristic title of "Ariadne Florentina," is in preparation at Wiley's.

Spielhagen is to correspond for the Athenæum from Germany.

Nature's series of steel portraits of distinguished scientists is giving it especial success. The whole of the regular issue containing the portrait of Professor Huxley was bought up at once, and a second edition is now ready.

"THE Life of Christ," by Rev. F. W. Farrar, D.D., of London, author of a volume of popular sermons, will be issued early in the fall by E. P. Dutton & Co. The English critics give it high praise.

WE are desired to correct a numerical error in onr report of the Convention. It was not eleven, but eight houses of Nashville that were represented

by Mr. A. Setliff, his credentials being signed by seven of these.

We have from S. C. Griggs & Co., Chicago, an advance copy of a work on "The Trinity," by Rev. F. Burris, of the Methodist church. His view is that the Trinity is not composed of three persons, but is the centering in Christ of Deity, Humanity, and Divine Spirit, so that there was no Trinity before Christ. Prof. Jos. Hasen, D.D., introduces the book with an interesting historical study of the doctrine of the Trinity, endorsing this book as able and of use, though not adopting its views, and his remarks, we notice, are coincided with by Chicago clergymen of such diverse schools as those of Robert Collyer and Prof. Swing.

THE new work by Prof. Wm. Matthews, author of "Getting on in the World," will be entitled "The Great Conversers and other Essays." A second volume by Benj. F. Taylor, "The World on Wheels, and other Essays," is also in press at S. C. Griggs & Co.'s. The MS. of Prof. Stevens' "Orations of Lysias," lately announced for speedy publication by them, has since been burned in an express car on its way to the printer, and it will take some months to reproduce it.

Mr. FRANCIS PARKMAN'S new work (Little, Brown & Co.) is to be on "The Old Régime in Canada."

TEN thousand copies of the third volume of Forster's Dickens were sold in England within ten days of publication.

A NIECE of Thomas Carlyle, who resides at Chelsea, and keeps house for him, one Miss Aikin, has edited for Macmillan's "Golden Treasury Series" a collection of "Scottish Song." Mr. Carlyle has revised and corrected proof so thoroughly that it is said to be virtually his book.

MR. W. CAREW HAZLITT'S book about the Lambs embraces the correspondence of Mary Lamb, fac similes of the titles of the rare first editions of Charles' writings, drawings of his various places of residence, unpublished or uncollected letters, papers, and other curious scraps. "Lambiana," as it is called, has been kept back by copyright difficulties, but is now promised immediately.

"SAXE HOLM'S Stories" have been reprinted in London in Sampson Low & Co.'s copyright editions of American authors, which includes works of such popular writers as Miss Alcott, Mrs. Whitney, Dr. Holland, and the like.

A SUPERB English volume is announced: "Shakespeare's Home and Rural Life," by James Walter, being a biographical narrative, illustrated by about 100 landscapes and views, by the heliotype process, from original drawings taken in the localities.

KARL MARX, the Internationalist leader, is translating his book on "Capital" into English.

THE eight English journals that have printed Miss Braddon's "Taken at the Flood" are so pleased with the system that they have made a fresh joint arrangement for a second novel by her.

DICKS is now publishing the Waverley Novels in a threepenny edition, each volume containing a novel complete; with unabridged text, the original notes, and five illustrations. "Waverley" and Guy Mannering" are already out.

A BOOK whose interest extends over to this side is to appear soon in London, under the title, "The Revolt of the Field." It will contain a sketch of

the rise and progress of the movement among the agricultural laborers, known as the "National Agricultural Laborers' Union."

#### THE LIBRARY CORNER.

THE fine new building of the Cincinnati Public Library, containing by far the handsomest library hall in the country, is now open to the public. It was dedicated the 25th of February with an address by Hon. Geo. H. Pendleton. Mr. Vickars is Mr. Poole's successor as librarian, and has a staff of twenty-five.

JOHN HADDEN, John Turner, and F. Kiss have been engaged on trial as assistants in cataloguing at the Chicago Public Library, at a salary of \$1,000 per year each. The award for supplying the books of current American literature, consisting of about 12,000 volumes, was made to W. B. Keen, Cooke & Co., their bid being the lowest. A similar contract for foreign literature is yet to be awarded.

THE library of the Wisconsin Historical Society is extraordinarily rich in newspaper files, counting 61 volumes for the 17th century, 312 for the 18th, and 1,771 for the present.

In speaking of the Lawrence Librarian's report, the Nation says: "His statistics confirm the well-established law that in any public library three-fourths of the circulation is of works of fiction. Thus, in Lawrence the proportion is 77 per cent. in summer, 74 per cent. in winter, and for the year about 75 per cent. In Boston, we may remark for purposes of comparison, the proportion has been in successive years 76, 78, and 77 per cent.; in Cincinnati, 74 per cent.; in Quincy, Mass., with a population not unlike that of Lawrence, 80 per cent.

HERE are the ranks in three Yankee libraries, of popular fictionists, in respect to call for their books:

	Bangor.	Quincy.	Lawrence
Mrs. M. J. Holmes		II	4
Mrs. Southworth	. 3	_*	1
Charles Reade	3	4	32
Wilkie Collins	. 4	10	17
Dickens	. 6	5	3
Hawthorne	. 8	19	43
Mrs. Whitney	. 9	2	13
A. S. Roe		8	64
Mrs. Muloch-Craik	. 15	19	6
Lever	. 32	17	10
Bulwer	. 33	20	20
Scott	. 25	25	8

<sup>\*</sup> Works excluded.

THE Empress of Germany has sent to the reading-room of the Cooper Union, through Mr. Bancroft, forty photographs, exhibiting the various instruments, carriages, and apparatus used by the Sanitary Commission of Prussia in the Franco-Prussian war. These are now on exhibition.

THE Manchester Public Free Libraries report that 2,501,564 persons have availed themselves of their use during the library year 1872-3. In the Reference Library there are now 50,508 volumes, and in the Lending Department 76,584, making a total of 127,092 volumes. The principal Librarian is Dr. Crestadoro, and the Sub-Librarian Mr. W. E. A. Axon, F. R.S. L.

THERE is now issued in Madrid each month a work of considerable value to those who may desire to be apprised of the new books published there and at other cities in Spain. It is named

the Boletin de la Libreria, and issued by M. Murillo, Calle de Alcala, No. 18. The subscription is eight francs per annum. The last number to hand contains the names of several works lately published, and of others in the press, also particulars of a few old and rare books on sale.—Athenœum.

MR. R. C. CHILDERS, Assistant Librarian of the India Office, has been appointed Professor of the Pali Language and Literature at University College, London.

A SELECTION from the letters of the late Joseph Green Coggswell, first librarian of the Astor library, forming a narrative of his life, has been prepared by a lady to whom a large mass of his correspondence was intrusted for this purpose. It is proposed to print two hundred copies of this, for private circulation, by subscription, in a handsome quarto volume, from the Riverside Press, Cambridge, at the price, and of the full value of \$5.co. The number of copies being so restricted, and the contents being in the nature of an autobiographic memorial of one so respected and beloved, this volume will have an assured appreciation. Subscriptions may be addressed to George S. Hillard, 62 Pinckney street, Boston.

WE learn from the Nation that Mr. Charles F. Bradford, of Roxbury, has presented to the library of Harvard, his manuscript work, in three thick volumes, entitled "Index to the Notes of D. Diego Clemencin in his edition of 'Don Quijote,' Madrid, 1833-39, 6 tom. 4to., with numerous references to obscure and difficult passages in the text; also, with references in the margin to Mr. Ticknor's 'History of Spanish Literature,' 3 vols., edition of 1863." This "Index" represents a labor of love of more than fifteen years. It is presented, beautifully bound, in Mr. Bradford's own handwriting, so neat and firm and even that for convenience of reference it leaves nothing to be desired. It is as clear to the eye as print. It has great importance as a general commentary on Cervantes.

MR. SCUDDER, in Every Saturday, suggests as a better book than Hamst's, as a key to noms de plume, etc., "the one in preparation, entitled 'A Dictionary of the Anonymous and Pseudonymous Literature of Great Britain, including the Works of Foreigners written in or translated into the English Language, by the late Samuel Halkett, Esq., Keeper of the Advo-cates' Library, Edinburgh.' The work is to form two volumes demy quarto, each volume extending to about six hundred pages, and the edition is limited to five hundred copies. The publisher, Mr. William Paterson, of Edinburgh, announces the book and names the price of three pounds ten shillings to subscribers, and refers American subscribers to J. Sabin & Sons, of New York." We, of course, in the paragraph of which Every Saturday speaks, referred librarians only to the best existing work, and indeed called attention to the deficiencies of Hamst's ourselves.

#### Unity Amongst Publishers.

WE have received from New York a very remarkable and a very complete publication. Doubtless the next edition will be even more complete than the present. If so, it will be rather in form than in matter. The book is called "The Uniform Trade List Annual," If only our own publishers could approach the nearest-thing-to-per-

fection of this American Directory, they would do infinitely more than they do at present to oblige both the bookseller and the general reader. cares, for instance, to have a catalogue of the works published by one particular firm? Who cares, again, to be worried with a catalogue of the works of one particular man? Lastly, who cares to be troubled with twenty or thirty different book catalogues, all of different size and different form? What you want for the books of the year is a succinct list. To whose interest is it to prepare such a list?

Clearly to the interests of the publishers them-What they should do is, each of them to selves. publish his own catalogue, each of them to publish it in uniform shape and type, each of them to hand the result over to some third person, who would make a similar Directory to the American one which we praise. So extraordinary a book is useful not only to the student, but to the bookseller who buys it-to sell again-and to the man who buys of the bookseller. It is a compendium of all American knowledge relating to books published in the country and published elsewhere. It does away completely with museum and other dry catalogues. It puts you in possession of precisely the kind of information which would help you to buy any books whatsoever. The collocation of so many catalogues may possibly have produced a little confusion in the way of bringing them out, but that the placing of them together in a sizeable and reasonable book is a distinct advantage, we are quite certain. The American proprietor is, if not a genius, at all events a very clever compiler of the directory. He has produced a book which is unsurpassed elsewhere. In printing, in paper, in binding, it is perfection. There is only one drawback, and that is, that it seems to require just a little more unanimity among the publishers. The book should be brought out in the same type, and with the same kind of paper throughout. - Printing Times (London).

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